IN THE CLAIMS

The following is a current listing of claims and will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application. Please amend the claims as follows.

1-155. (Canceled)

156. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

receiving at a user device one or more of a plurality of utilization permit keys, wherein said plurality of utilization permit keys includes:

a first utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and configured to permit one or more of the following uses of digital data[[;]]: displaying, editing, storing, copying, transferring[[,]]; and

a second utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and configured to permit one or more of the following uses of digital data[[;]]: displaying, editing, storing, copying, transferring,[[,]] wherein one or more uses permitted by the second utilization permit key are different from the one <u>or</u> more uses permitted by the first utilization permit key; and

decrypting encrypted digital data using ~~the received~~ one or more of the <u>received</u> plurality of utilization permit keys that includes at least the first utilization permit key or the second utilization permit key for performance of only the use or uses of the digital data that are permitted by the received one or more utilization permit keys.

157. (Canceled)

158. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 156, wherein the plurality of utilization permit keys include a display permit key permitting only display of the digital data, an edit permit key permitting only display and editing of the digital data, a storage permit key permitting only storage of the digital data, a copy permit key permitting only copying of the digital data, and a transfer permit key permitting only transferring of the digital data.

159. (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 156, wherein a copyright control program ensures said decrypting is for performance of only the permitted use or uses of the digital data.

160.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 156, further comprising displaying a copyright control message by a copyright control program when the user device attempts a use of the digital data that is different from the use or uses of the digital data that are permitted by the received one ore more utilization permit keys.

161.   (Currently Amended) A method according to claim 156, further comprising limiting, by a copyright control program, a number of times the digital data is used <u>by the user device</u>.

162.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 156, further comprising limiting, by a copyright control program, a number of times the received one or more utilization permit keys are used for decryption of the encrypted digital data for the permitted use or uses of the digital data.

163.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 156, further comprising maintaining, by copyright control program, copyright information on the digital data.

164.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 163, wherein the copyright information includes history information on authorship of the digital data.

165.   (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 159 ~~to 163~~, further comprising receiving the copyright control program at the user device with the received one or more utilization permit keys.

166.   (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 159 ~~to 163~~, further comprising receiving the copyright control program at the user device with the encrypted digital data.

167.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 156, wherein the one or more of the plurality of utilization permit keys are received from a key control center.

168.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 167, further comprising receiving a copyright control program from the key control center at the user device with the received one or more utilization permit keys.

169.   (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

        receiving at a user device one or more of a plurality of utilization permit keys, wherein said plurality of utilization permit keys includes:

a first utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and configured to permit one or more of the following uses of digital data[[;]]: displaying, editing, storing, copying, transferring[[,]]; and

a second utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and configured to permit one or more of the following uses of digital data[[;]]: displaying, editing, storing, copying, transferring, wherein one or more uses permitted by the second utilization permit key are different from the one or more uses permitted by the first utilization permit key;

decrypting encrypted digital data using ~~the received~~ one or more of the <u>received</u> plurality of utilization permit keys that include at least the first utilization permit key or the second utilization permit key only when the use or uses of the digital data permitted by the one or more received utilization permit keys are displaying digital data or editing digital data; and

performing only the use or uses of the digital data that are permitted by the received one or more utilization permit keys.

170.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, further comprising re-encrypting the decrypted digital data after performance of the use or uses when the permitted use or uses are displaying digital data or editing digital data.

171.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, wherein the plurality of utilization permit keys include a display permit key permitting only display of the digital data, an edit permit key permitting only display and editing of the digital data, a storage permit key permitting only storage of the digital data, a copy permit key permitting only copying of the digital data, and a transfer permit key permitting only transferring of the digital data.

172.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, wherein a copyright control program ensures said performing is only of the permitted use or uses of the digital data.

173.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, further comprising displaying a copyright control message by a copyright control program when the user device attempts a use of the digital data that is different from the use or uses of the digital data that are permitted by the received one or more utilization permit keys.

174.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, further comprising limiting, by a copyright control program, a number of times the digital data is used by the user device.

175.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, further comprising limiting, by a copyright control program, a number of times the received one or more utilization permit keys are used for decryption of the encrypted digital data.

176.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, further comprising maintaining, by a copyright control program, copyright information on the digital data.

177.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 176, wherein the copyright information includes history information on authorship of the digital data.

178.   (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 172 ~~to 176~~, further comprising receiving the copyright control program by the user device with the received one or more utilization permit keys.

179.   (Currently Amended) A method according to ~~any one of~~ claim[[s]] 172 ~~to 176~~, further comprising receiving the copyright control program at the user device with the encrypted digital data.

180.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 169, wherein the one or more of the plurality of utilization permit keys are received from a key control center.

181.   (Previously Presented) A method according to claim 180, further comprising receiving a copyright control program from the key control center by the user device with the received one or more utilization permit keys.

182.   (Currently Amended) An apparatus, comprising:

    means for receiving by a user device one or more of a plurality of utilization permit keys, wherein said plurality of utilization permit keys includes:

        a first utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and configured to permit one or more of the following uses of digital data[[;]]: displaying, editing, storing[[,]]; copying, transferring, and

a second utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and configured to permit one or more of the following uses of digital data[[;]]: displaying, editing, storing, copying, transferring[[,]]; wherein one or more uses permitted by the second utilization permit key are different from the one or more uses permitted by the first utilization permit key; and

means for decrypting encrypted digital data using ~~the received~~ one or more of the <u>received</u> plurality of utilization permit keys that includes at least the first utilization permit key or the second utilization permit key for performance of only the use or uses of the digital data that are permitted by the one or more received utilization permit keys.

183.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 182, wherein the plurality of utilization permit keys include a display permit key permitting only display of the digital data, an edit permit key permitting only display and editing of the digital data, a storage permit key permitting only storage of the digital data, a copy permit key permitting only copying of the digital data, and a transfer permit key permitting only transferring of the digital data.

184.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 182, further comprising means for ensuring said decrypting is for performance of only the use or uses of the digital data that are permitted by the received one or more utilization permit keys.

185.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 182, further comprising means for displaying a copyright control message when the user device attempts a use of the digital data that is different from the use or uses of the digital data that are permitted by the received one or more utilization permit keys.

186.   (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 182, further comprising means for limiting a number of times the digital data is used by the user device.

187.   (Currently Amended) An article comprising: a computer readable storage medium having stored thereon instructions that, if executed by a user device, cause the user device to:

receive one or more of a plurality of utilization permit keys, wherein said plurality of utilization permit keys includes:

a first utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and configured to permit one or more of the following uses of digital data[[;]]: displaying, editing, storing, copying, transferring[[,]]; and

a second utilization permit key capable of use in cryptographic operations and configured to permit one or more of the following uses of digital data[[;]]: displaying, editing, storing, copying, transferring, wherein one or more uses permitted by the second utilization permit key are different from the one or more uses permitted by the first utilization permit key; and

decrypt encrypted digital data using ~~the received~~ one or more of the <u>received</u> plurality of utilization permit keys that includes at least the first utilization permit key or the second utilization permit key for performance of only the use or uses of the digital data that are permitted by the one or more received utilization permit keys.

188.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 187, wherein the plurality of utilization permit keys include a display permit key permitting only display of the digital data, an edit permit key permitting only display and editing of the digital data, a storage permit key permitting only storage of the digital data, a copy permit key permitting only copying of the digital data, and a transfer permit key permitting only transferring of the digital data.

189.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 187, wherein said instructions, if executed, further cause the user device to ensure said decryption is for performance of only the permitted use or uses of the digital data via a copyright control program.

190.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 187, wherein said instructions, if executed, further cause the user device to display a copyright control message via a copyright control program when the user device attempts a use of the digital data that is different from the use or uses of the digital data that are permitted by the received one or more utilization permit keys.

191.   (Previously Presented) The article of claim 187, wherein said instructions, if executed, further cause the user device to limit a number of times the digital data is used by the user device via a copyright control program.